

Administration of Barack Obama, 2016

Statement on the Death of Joseph Medicine Crow

April 4, 2016

In Crow, you'd say Dr. Joseph Medicine Crow was a *bacheyitche*—a good man. The first of his people to go to college and earn a Master's, he wore war paint beneath his uniform and an eagle feather beneath his helmet during World War II. His bravery in battle earned him the Bronze Star from America, the Legion d'honneur from France, and in 2009, I was proud to honor him with the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Yet I suspect his greatest honor was one he earned from his people: the title of war chief—the last Crow to hold that distinction.

Dr. Medicine Crow dedicated much of his life to sharing the stories of his culture and his people. And in doing so, he helped shape a fuller history of America for us all. Michelle and I honor 102 years of a life well lived, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family and the entire Crow Nation.

Categories: Statements by the President : Deaths :: Crow, Joseph Medicine.

Names: Medicine Crow, Joseph Medicine; Obama, Michelle.

Subjects: Deaths : Medicine Crow, Joseph; Decorations, medals, and awards : Presidential Medal of Freedom.

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